Integration Forest/Mill/R&D/Commercialization: a need not always fulfilled in the pulp and paper value chain

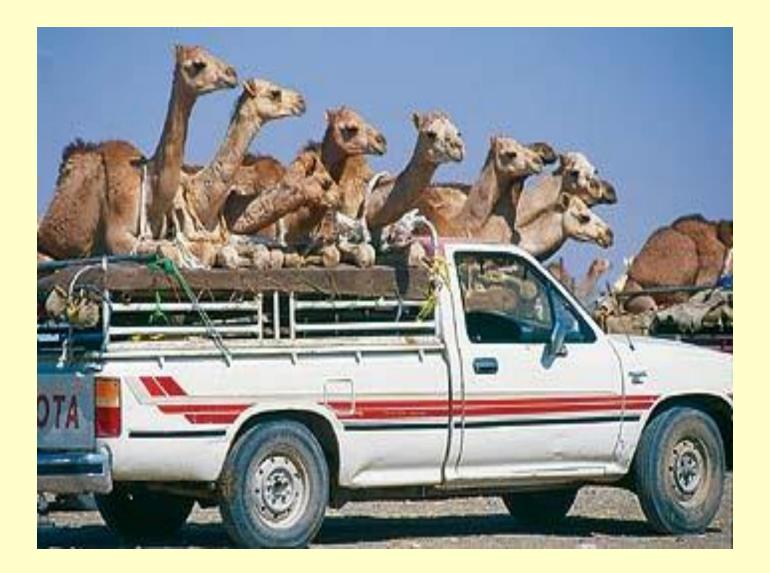


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The presentation has the objective to discuss the lack of tuning among several key areas in the process of developing, manufacturing, trading and supplying good quality pulp & paper products to the market.

The focus is to make visible the common mistakes the companies in general have when dealing with this issue, and the main constrains to turn integration into a sound reality. The role of suppliers/customers is emphasized in the success of this productive chain. The presentation is based on the author's experience on this subject, taking the eucalyptus pulp and paper manufacturing sector as an example.

Value chain or Chain of complaints



Integration must be understood as a very important management tool, and not as a simple technical forum that managers are not responsible for caring

Today:

⇒pulp and paper machines are faster, larger, cleaner and a lot more sensitive to changes

⇒ paper quality requirements are a lot stricter (moisture, dimensional stability, curl, porosity, bulk, caliper, etc)

Today:

⇒top managers are more demanding on cost control, operational efficiency, and performances

⇒ market is more demanding and very very volatile

Company's strategies

- <u>Survival</u>
- commodity oriented
- niche oriented



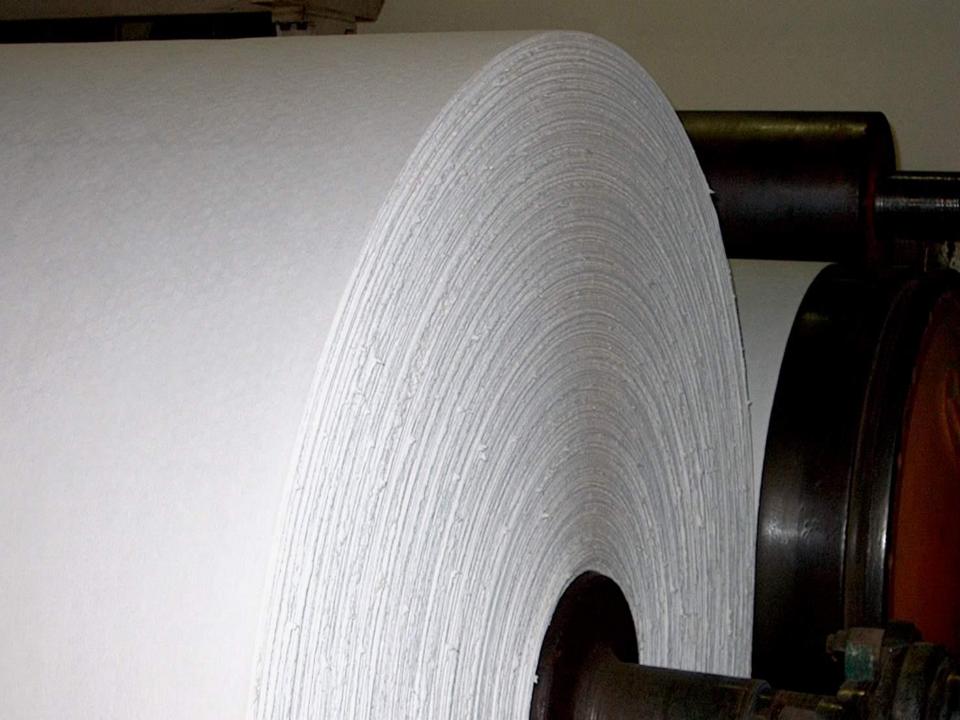
- <u>Growth and</u> <u>Development</u>
- commodity oriented
- niche oriented

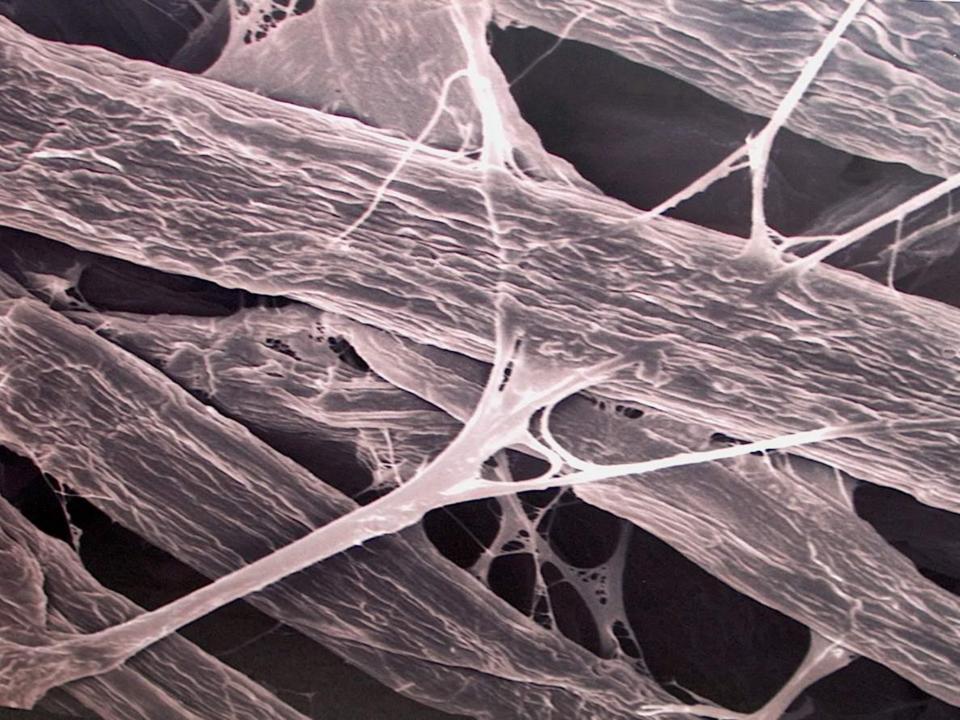
• In both strategies, the management are different, and different will the required human resource profile

•In both cases, the pressures over the wood will be the same: quantity and cost, no matter whether available or not



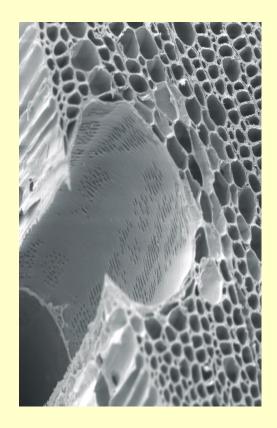
Wood production and wood supply are core sectors in the value chain, but in general they are not understood as such by top managemnent





Wood price as a standing tree is kept low and it does not bring incentive to local farms to grow good quality forests





Good quality genomes are not transferred to farmers with the belief that these superior trees will be copied and used by the competition



It is a must to managers to keep wood as a low cost raw material at the mill doors. However, what do you mean by low cost wood?



Investments in wood storage, wood chipping, wood handling are usually at the minimum, most of the time, in most of the mills



Money in general is oriented to machines, boilers, digesters, etc. In the forestry area it goes to tree breeding (a far away future)







Wood sector is a gray area between forestry and mill industrial site.

Customer chain is many times a forgotten issue.

"Future expectations are not today's results"

"The difference between the talk and the reality"

Wood losses as residues are amazingly high from forest to customers (wood , fibers and broke)





Wood blends are the most traditional way to manage variability and to try to transform non-uniform wood supply into a sound and uniform mill performance

Paper mills manufacturing single product are very sensitive to wood supply.

The best to them is an effective control of wood blend.

Market pulp mills may have two options by controlling fibrous raw material supply:

Single product# Specialty pulps

At what costs, what margins and net profits ?



To add value does not necessarily mean to add profits.

Due to low quality chips, digester knots and rejects are high in the brown pulp (1.5 - 3%)and when recycled, they occupy room in the digester volume, a room that could be used by fresh wood chips to raise production.

Pulp production is definitively affected by wood quality in terms of digesting (liquor demand, yield); washing, screening, solids to recovery boiler, contaminants (pitch, sand, soil, etc), bleaching, drying, etc

Paper production is very much affected by wood quality: screening, refining, formation, drainage in the wet end, energy and steam consumption, chemical consumption, breaks in the dry and wet end, broke generation, machine operational performance, optical brightener addition, strengths, etc

Customers, both from market pulp or paper products, are affected by the quality of the wood supply

Care with logs is second class: \Rightarrow dirt logs come to the mill bringing contaminants (soil, leaves, branches, stones, etc) \Rightarrow deteriorated wood is generally part of the wood supply by lack of appropriated planning of harvesting and stocking

<u>Care with wood is second class</u>:

⇒ logs are in general smashed and broken in parts due to inefficient drum debarkers (very low efficiency) and they are sent to the manufacture of second class chips with high bark content

⇒ wood chipping and screening are most of the times bottlenecked and the result is a poor quality chips to the digester



Care with wood is second class:

⇒ wood cost is a hidden issue, due to wood losses both in forest and at the mill. Good wood is also transferred to biomass boilers, in a recycling measure that costs a lot, but does not add visibility to total wood costs

 \Rightarrow wood chips are more expensive than biomass, but this is very often not visible







The Ten Management Rules





Rule # 1: Management of wood supply



"from forest site to paper customers"

Rule # 2: <u>Management of</u> <u>quantity</u>



"To guarantee a uniform chip bulk density to digester to keep operation stable in terms of liquor dosage, wood feeding, pulp daily production, etc."



"The challenge is to tame the variability"

Rule # 3: Management ofvariability

 efficient and uniform blends
 minimum two lines of chipping to adapt each line to a particular wood quality (for example: one line with *E.globulus* and another with *E.nitens*)

Wood quality: •species / age •moisture •basic density •residual bark wood extractives total dissolved solids in black liquor

Fiber quality:

•fiber population

•coarseness

•fines

•vessels

Water Retention ValueZero Span tensile

Fiber quality: •viscosity •pitch hemicelluloses electronegativeness •zeta potential

•pH

Rule # 3: Management of variability

Fiber quality: •calcium ion content •pulp refining •energy consumption •water absorption

Rule # 4: Management of thequality of wood supply

•bark

chip quality fines / sawdust / oversized chips moisture bulk density

Rule # 5:Management ofpulping process

cooking
screening
bleaching
recovery boiler



Rule # 6: <u>Management of the</u> paper manufacturing process



refining drainage retention chemicals added •wet pressing •sizing •drying calendering •coating

Rule # 7: Broke management

•Quality control •Fixed and controlled addition



Rule # 8: <u>Management of</u> process changes



program •planning •follow up speed of changes •vital indexes to follow identification of constraints

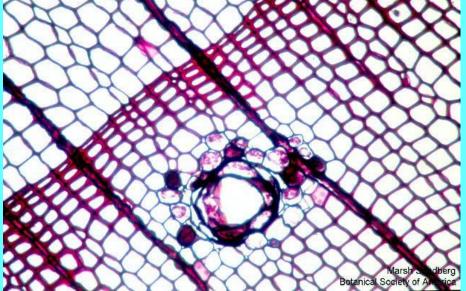
Rule # 9: <u>Management of</u> <u>uniqueness</u>



•Separation of different wood quality to different products: •tissue grades printing and writing grades packaging grades

Rule # 9: Management ofuniqueness

"It is not that simple, since very affected by bottlenecks"



Rule # 10: <u>Management of</u> <u>human resources, mainly</u> <u>vanities</u>

<u>"It is also not that</u> <u>simple, depends mainly</u> <u>on you"</u>



Final suggestion:

To develop a team with global view, from forest to customers, to act as a source of knowledge and good will to perform a sound management in terms of decisions in the value chain







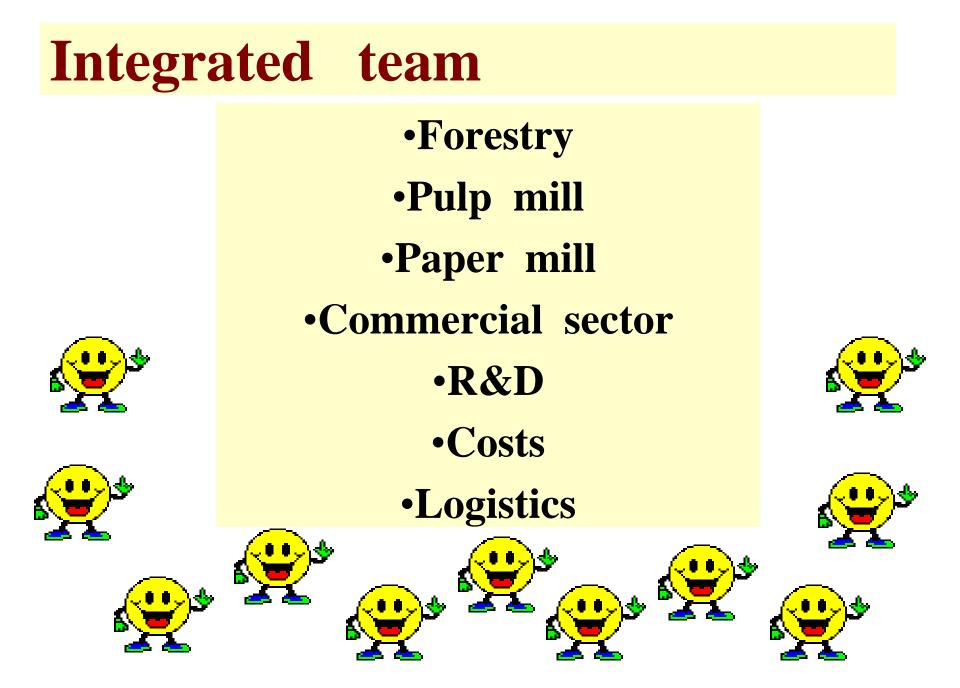
Final suggestion:

Work hard to fight conflicting information and ideas/concepts, improving management efficiency, human relations, process efficiency and overall reliability









Good Luck